Report on mid-air collision between Saudi Jumbo and Kazakh Airlines plane

1397. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since received report on the mid-air collision between Saudi Jumbo and Kazakh Airlines plane on 12 November, 1996 near Charkhi Dadri;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether Government held responsible to Kazakh crew for crash;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to take up the matter with the Kazakhistan Government to bear all expenditure of investigation, compensation etc.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The report is under examination of the Government.

Replacing the radar system at Indira Gandhi International Airport

1398. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the press report appeared in the Indian Express dated the 27th May, 1997 under the caption "New Radar blips out again at I.G.I. Airport;"

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons for delay in replacing the radar system with a latest developed technology as the existing one has become obsolete and outdated?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. System Site Acceptance test of the integrated radar system was held at I.G.I. Airport during the last week of May, 1997. During this testing, fake echoes were observed on the Primary Radars. These observations have been recorded and the process of optimisation of radars is in progress.

(c) The existing Primary Radar at IGI airport with 60 nautical miles range is operational and in good condition. This is being replaced by the state-of-the art Primary and Secondary Radars along with Automated equipment for better surveillance of air traffic.

Proposal to upgrade the Vizag Airport to an international standard

1399. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are nsidering a proposal to upgrade the present airport in Vizag to an international standard; and

(b) if so, the details of such a proposal, including the time frame by which such upgradation is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Domestic air passengers

1400. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that domestic air passenger traffic has been on the decline;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of decline in the air passenger traffic during